



Brown v. Board of Education SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Pursuant to § 30-231.1 et seq., Code of Virginia

Senator L. Louise Lucas, Chair

Senate Subcommittee Room 1
Pocahontas Building
Richmond, Virginia

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

1:00 P.M.

SUMMARY

Senator L. Louise Lucas, chair of the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Committee (the Committee) called the meeting to order. The chair welcomed newly appointed member M. Vishon Luck to the Committee and welcomed retired staff member Brenda Edwards to the Counseling and Technical Advisory Subcommittee.

Updates on the Brown v. Board Scholarship Program

Staff provided an overview of the status of the scholarship program. In 2016, the Committee voted to close the scholarship to new applicants and accept only renewal scholarships due to depletion of funds and increasing costs of education for enrolled students. This policy was first implemented in the 2017–2018 school year, during which six renewal scholarships were awarded.

The Committee reviewed a fiscal status report provided by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia detailing all scholarship disbursements to date. In the 2017–2018 academic year, disbursements totaling \$18,094.00 were sent to two universities to cover tuition and fees for four students. Two other students receiving scholarships did not require funds to be disbursed during the school year. In total, the program has awarded \$1,242,707.65 to scholarship recipients since its first year in 2005–2006. The fund has \$1,012,660.71 remaining in its balance. The report noted that all eligible scholarship recipients are now in the age range of 60 to 80. Of the 2017–2018 recipients, one is pursuing a GED, three are pursuing undergraduate degrees, and two are pursuing graduate degrees.

Executive Session

The Committee voted to convene in executive session pursuant to subdivision 36 of § 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia to discuss and consider matters pertaining to the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program excluded from public discussion under this section. At the conclusion of the executive session, the Committee voted to return to open session.

2018–2019 Academic Year

The Committee directed staff to notify five students of the approval of their scholarship renewal for the 2018–2019 academic year. Due to rising costs of materials, members agreed to increase students' maximum book allowance by \$200. Undergraduate students will receive up to \$1,200 per term and graduate students will receive up to \$1,400 per term for purchase of books required for coursework.

Next Meeting

The Committee will meet again in spring of 2019 to review applications for the 2019–2020 school year and to discuss the status of the program. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.